



City Administrator's Report

August 2008

Dear Reader,

Each month, this report from the City Administrator's Office provides a brief summary and update of major activities, events, projects, and programs that impact the Santa Barbara community. Feel free to send me your comments and suggestions.

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Key Meetings

City Council Meetings

August 5, 12, and 19. City Hall Council Chambers, 735 Anacapa Street, 2 p.m.

Community Events

Downtown Farmer's Market

Tuesdays, 4 to 7:30 p.m., 500 and 600 blocks of State Street. Saturdays, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., corner of Santa Barbara and Cota Streets.

Flags on State Street

www.santabarbaradowntown.com

Alzheimer's Association

August 4th to 15th

Heal the Ocean

August 15th to 29th

United Way

August 29th to September 8th

City Administrator's Office

Watch Inside Santa Barbara. *Inside Santa Barbara* is City TV Channel 18's award-winning news magazine show. In this episode of *Inside Santa Barbara*, City TV covers the Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness, the City's sewer modeling project, energy conservation tips, and Measure G, a ballot measure to reduce and modernize the City's Utility User's Tax. The show will premiere on Saturday, August 9th at 9 p.m. You can watch City TV on Mondays at 8 and 8:30 p.m., Tuesdays at 5 and 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., Saturdays at 9 and 9:30 p.m., and Sundays at 10 and 10:30 p.m. You can also watch *Inside Santa Barbara* by visiting the website at: www.santabarbaraca.gov.

Administrative Services Department

Environmental Services Manager Recruitment. The City is recruiting for the new position of Environmental Services Manager. The annual salary ranges from \$93,267 to \$113,367. The ideal candidate must be a highly-motivated individual who possesses a sound understanding of solid waste management principles and practices and has knowledge of new and emerging technologies for processing solid waste; an understanding of refuse collection, hauling and disposal operations; knowledge of legislation applicable to recycling and waste management; and a broad understanding of environmental sciences applicable to solid waste management. The ideal candidate must possess strong managerial and leadership qualities, supervise ten employees, have excellent written and communication skills, be able to work effectively in a team environment, possess good negotiation skills, and be able to work collaboratively with executive and professional staff of surrounding jurisdictions. The deadline to apply is Thursday, August 28, 2008. Applicants can apply online by visiting the website at: www.santabarbaraca.gov.

Airport Department

Airline Terminal Project Takes Flight. Design of the proposed new Airline Terminal Project has been completed and the City Council received a status report on July 22nd. The project includes three major components for construction: aircraft parking ramp reconstruction; temporary terminal loop road and short term parking lot; and a new 60,000 square foot airline terminal. A new airline terminal is essential to accommodate existing and future passenger, security, and airline requirements. The terminal was last expanded in 1976 when annual passenger traffic totaled 398,000, compared to today's 820,000 passengers. The project is scheduled to begin construction this month and be completed by 2011.

Upswing in June Passenger Count. There was a 5.6% increase in passenger traffic over last June at the Santa Barbara Airport (SBA). During June, 75,815 passengers arrived and departed aboard seven airlines to twelve nonstop destinations. On average, the highest capacity flights were on United Express to Denver and American Eagle to Dallas/Fort Worth. Overall, the passenger count at SBA is up 3.5% for the first six months of 2008.

Ramp Reconstruction and Taxiway B Widening. This project will reconstruct a portion of the terminal aircraft ramp and the adjacent taxiway as part of the first phase of the Airline Terminal Project. The \$3.6 million contract was awarded in July and will start work next month. Construction will last for four months and flight operations will not be affected.

Rental Car Quick-Turn-Around Facility. This facility will be relocated from the Airline Terminal premises to a 3.4 acre site at 25 David Love Place. The facility will provide fueling, car wash and maintenance services, along with vehicle storage for the four Airport rental car companies. Construction of the \$8.8 million project is funded by rental car customer facility charge revenue and will begin this month. The project will achieve a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification.

Community Development Department

Plan Santa Barbara. *Plan Santa Barbara* is your opportunity to shape the future of the City. Over the next two years, the City is sponsoring a broad-based public outreach process that will focus on future growth and development. The community will be discussing, evaluating and adjusting the City's housing, transportation, and environmental policies to best meet community needs now and in the future. The public is invited to participate in upcoming workshops to be held this month. For dates, times and locations, visit the website at: www.youplansb.org.

Planning Commission Update. The Planning Commission will meet on August 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th. Items include:

On August 7th, the Commission will review and make a recommendation to the City Council on the Draft Street Light Design Standards.

On August 14th, the Commission will provide feedback to staff on the Policy Options Workshops and provide input to the Preferred Policy Recommendations Report for *Plan Santa Barbara*, the City's General Plan Update.

On August 21st, the Commission will review and make a recommendation to the City Council regarding a proposed Specific Plan for the Los Portales project at 535 East Montecito Street. The project consists of a Specific Plan overlay for below market price restricted units in this M-1, Light Manufacturing Zone. The proposal includes 40 price restricted homes and eight market rate units. One of the discussion items is whether all of the units should be price-restricted or if some should be sold at market-rate to further reduce the price-restricted units.

On August 28th, the Commission will hold a special meeting with the Transportation and Circulation Committee to review the outcome of the newly created traffic model for *Plan Santa Barbara*.

Finance Department

Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) up 1.9%. Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 TOT revenue ended up 1.9% over FY 2007. This is on target with the 2% FY 2008 year-end projection upon which the FY 2009 budget was based.

Month	FY 2005	Change from Prior Year	FY 2006	Change from Prior Year	FY 2007	Change from Prior Year	FY 2008	Change from Prior Year
July	\$ 1,301,652	8.6%	\$ 1,477,789	13.5%	\$ 1,556,439	5.3%	\$ 1,613,163	3.6%
Aug	1,357,717	0.6%	1,504,589	10.8%	1,591,998	5.8%	1,645,684	3.4%
Sept	931,244	5.0%	1,109,428	19.1%	1,196,533	7.9%	1,218,695	1.9%
Oct	914,718	5.9%	963,261	5.3%	1,051,043	9.1%	1,075,341	2.3%
Nov	721,982	3.6%	809,684	12.1%	887,047	9.6%	870,754	-1.8%
Dec	575,075	4.0%	671,965	16.8%	669,540	-0.4%	669,133	-0.1%
Jan	606,484	3.7%	661,507	9.1%	677,428	2.4%	691,651	2.1%
Feb	699,349	-0.6%	738,532	5.6%	758,041	2.6%	811,319	7.0%
Mar	872,554	11.5%	855,597	-1.9%	953,927	11.5%	1,000,573	4.9%
April	941,281	7.5%	1,000,696	6.3%	1,046,772	4.6%	958,282	-8.5%
May	1,001,438	11.8%	1,015,349	1.4%	1,052,582	3.7%	1,118,049	6.2%
June	1,158,018	18.9%	1,223,974	5.7%	1,249,817	2.1%	1,259,366	0.8%
FY Total	\$ 11,081,510	6.9%	\$ 12,032,372	8.6%	\$ 12,691,167	5.5%	\$ 12,932,010	1.9%
Budget	\$ 10,684,900		\$ 11,504,200		\$ 12,630,600		\$ 13,581,500	

Includes only the 10% unrestricted TOT revenues. Beginning in January 2001, an additional 2% is credited to Creeks/Clean Water (Measure B).

Fire Department

Firefighter Recruit Academy Graduation. On July 31st, six new recruits graduated from a 12-week training academy and the new firefighters were immediately assigned to the Fire Suppression Division. The rigorous training process covered basic firefighting skills involving the use of ladders, fire hose evolutions, search and rescue, roof ventilation and self rescue from building fires, wildland firefighting, hazardous materials response, and the fundamentals of a “rescue system” focused on the use of ropes and associated rope rescue hardware. These training academies have become more comprehensive over the past decade to help recruits deal with situations they will encounter in the field.

City Assists Neighbors During Gap Fire. The City of Santa Barbara provided support to Santa Barbara County, City of Goleta, and the U.S. Forest Service during the Gap Fire. Employees with the Community Development Department were instrumental in helping to staff the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). At the County’s request, City staff set up a call center near the EOC. Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers answered phone calls from the public, which helped take the burden off the busy Forest Service phone lines. City firefighters helped in the extensive firefighting efforts. In addition, other Fire Department personnel were sent to help manage the incident. The Police Department assisted the County Sheriff with evacuations. City TV Channel 18 broadcast Gap Fire public information. The City also distributed public information on the City’s website and on information kiosks at various locations.

The Gap Fire burned over 9,400 acres and was 100% contained on July 28th. Four outbuildings were destroyed. Fortunately, no homes were destroyed and no lives were taken. The cause of the fire is human, but remains under investigation.

Water and Wastewater Crews worked around the clock to make sure that critical water and wastewater facilities were working during the frequent power outages caused by the Gap Fire.

Crews ensured that back-up generators were available at all critical facilities so that neighborhoods would not lose water service and sewer lift stations did not overflow.

Library Department

Young Writers Workshops. The Solvang Branch Library will offer two special focus workshops in August for teens in the seventh grade and above. Taking place on August 8th is "Journalism 101 – A Day in the Life of a Reporter," with Leah Etling, a Central Coast journalist for the past ten years. Students will spend the day learning about the duties of a general assignment reporter. Teens will learn how to write, read, research, and think like a reporter during this one day course.

Bookmobile Summer. The Bookmobile is making its summer rounds to over 20 stops, including United Way's "Fun in the Sun" programs, Santa Barbara Parks and Recreation's "Summer Fun" programs, Goleta schools, the Westside Boys and Girls Club, the Goleta Boys and Girls Club, child development centers, and neighborhood centers. Over 700 children have signed up for the Summer Reading Program through the Bookmobile. Over 200 new library cards were issued to Bookmobile patrons in July. About 120 people attended the Zoo-to-You Bookmobile/Summer Reading Program at Harding Elementary School on July 23rd, including preschool and elementary school children and adults.

Santa Barbara Reads. The annual community reading program known as *Santa Barbara Reads* has selected *Housekeeping*, the 1980 novel by Marilynne Robinson for this year's book. Robinson's 2004 novel, *Gilead*, won a Pulitzer Prize. She will appear at the Victoria Hall Theater on October 24th in a free public talk sponsored by UCSB Arts and Lectures and the Santa Barbara Public Library. Book discussions and a viewing of the 1987 film by the same name are planned at the library branches in October.

Parks and Recreation Department

Los Baños Repairs on Track. The Los Baños deep end wall replacement and re-plaster project is on schedule and the pool is scheduled to re-open Saturday, August 30th. The new deep end pool wall was completed July 9th and the contractor has been working on laying new lane line tile, reconnecting plumbing, and any final maintenance items prior to the new pool plaster being applied on August 5th and 6th. Once the plaster has been applied, the pool will require fourteen days for plaster curing, chemical balancing, and heating prior to the re-opening.

Russ Morrison Golf Tournament. The Annual Russ Morrison Memorial Golf Tournament at the Santa Barbara Golf Club is Friday, August 22nd. The proceeds from this tournament benefit the Russ Morrison Junior Golf Program, which provides golf instruction to youth ages 7 to 17 for only \$75 a year. The tournament is a team scramble format and the cost is \$135 per player. Tee times begin at 11 a.m. For an entry form, visit the website at: www.sbgolf.com. Contact Matt Easterbrook, PGA professional and Director of Instruction for the Russ Morrison Junior Golf Program, at 687-7087 for more information.

Double Shotgun at "Muni." The Santa Barbara Golf Club, also known as "Muni," has been celebrating its 50th Anniversary this summer with golf specials. A double shotgun event will be

held on Saturday, September 13th to honor golf pro Richard Chavez, who is retiring after 28 years and to celebrate Muni's 50th Anniversary. The \$50 entry includes greens fees, cart, tee prize and a barbeque lunch at Mulligan's. There will be at least five hole-in-one prizes on par 3 holes, including cars and other prizes. A noon ceremony will honor players from the original opening tournament in 1958, long-time employees of the golf course and pro shop. There will be a no-host cocktail party in Mulligan's Cafe at 6:30 p.m. to celebrate the career of Richard Chavez. For information on any of the 50th Anniversary specials or events, call the Pro Shop at 687-7087 or visit the website at: www.sbgolf.com.

Ninety Plusers Plan to Party. The Parks and Recreation Department will host the 22nd Ninety-Plus Party honoring Santa Barbara's eldest residents at Fess Parker's DoubleTree Resort on Wednesday, August 13th, at noon. The Department founded the Ninety Plus Club at the Carrillo Recreation Center two decades ago. Twenty-five members aged 90 or better graced the inaugural celebration in the spring of 1985. This traditional annual gathering has grown to nearly one hundred participants who are ninety years old and above. It includes a luncheon, live music with the Jerry Docken Band and a lively question and answer forum with master of ceremonies Larry Crandall. Call 897-2519 to request an invitation for someone 90 years old or better who would like to attend.

Fall and Winter Activity Guide Available. The new *Parks and Recreation Activity Guide* features a wide variety of activities including art, dance, music and theater classes for kids, adult sports leagues, tennis and swimming programs, and art, fitness and dance classes for adults. The *Parks and Recreation Activity Guide* will be available online and in the Parks and Recreation offices starting August 12th. In addition, the guide is delivered to all Santa Barbara City residents and distributed to *Goleta Valley Voice* readers in the 93110, 93111 and 93117 zip codes. The Activity Guide includes a list of free classes being offered from September 15th through September 20th during the Carrillo Recreation Center Open House. The free classes are great for those who want to try out an activity before signing up. This year's event features instructor demonstrations and a special raffle at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, September 15th.

Irrigation Project Begins at Santa Barbara Golf Course. Replacement of the existing two-inch potable water lines with four to six-inch main lines is underway. The replacement lines will allow for a greater volume of irrigation water, allowing staff to water more greens at a time and at a faster rate. The original sprinkler heads on the course and the driving range are 25 years old and will be replaced. The \$500,000 irrigation project is expected to be completed by the end of October. Play will not be affected in any way during this time.

Teen Programs Hosts Meeting for Southern California Teen Coalition. The Southern California Teen Coalition (SCTC) held its quarterly meeting in Santa Barbara on July 25th at the Chase Palm Park Center. Approximately 40 of its members joined the Santa Barbara Teen Coalition members for a cross-county networking session and exchange of ideas, all focusing on issues and programs for teens. The meeting was followed by brief tours of Santa Barbara's Skater's Point and the Twelve35 Teen Center. The SCTC is a coalition of over 200 cities from Orange County to Santa Barbara County. Most of the 400 members are part of city government and others are representatives of youth-based organizations. SCTC develops programs for teens that include training opportunities, program development and job-sharing. In addition to meeting quarterly, the SCTC annually hosts social and sports activities. For more information visit the website at: www.socalteencoalition.org.

Police Department

Viva la Fiesta 2008. The Santa Barbara Police Department is happy to report that Fiesta was a relatively quiet event this year with no major incidents. Several outside agencies assisted the Police Department in policing Fiesta as they have done in past years. Law enforcement officers were out on foot and in their vehicles throughout the City during Fiesta, with the highest concentration being in the downtown corridor. During all five days of Fiesta, there were a total of 33 felony arrests, 104 misdemeanor arrests, and 21 DUI arrests.

A Partnership for Our Youth. On July 22nd, Santa Barbara Police Chief Camerino Sanchez celebrated the success of 42 students who completed the College Readiness Academy. The academy is a partnership between La Casa de la Raza and the UCSB Mathematics, Engineering and Science Achievement (MESA) program. This partnership is a great example of enhanced education that develops, challenges, and creates positive change in our youth.

Public Works Department

Street Sweeping Expands to San Roque Area. The final phase of the City's residential street sweeping program began in July. The final expansion of the sweeping program includes 60 curb miles in San Roque from Miradero Drive on the east to Consuelo Drive on the west (near Hwy 154), and most streets between State Street and Foothill Road, plus the areas of Broadmoor Plaza, South Ontare, and Peach Grove Lane.

Fewer than 40 parking restriction signs were installed in the expansion area on heavily parked streets. Four curb miles will require parking enforcement out of the 60 curb miles of the expansion area.

Outreach meetings were held in January 2008 with residents in the expansion area. During July, parking enforcement officers issued reminder notices on vehicles parked on parking restricted streets. Parking citations will be issued beginning August 11th.

City Completes Sewer System Management Plan. The City is required by the State Water Resources Control Board to develop a comprehensive Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) that details the programs and projects undertaken by the City to maintain, repair, and replace the wastewater collection system. City staff completed this comprehensive operation plan a year ahead of the State's deadline. The SSMP will be presented to the City Council on August 5th.

Landscape Design Standards. The Water Resources Division is recommending changes to water conservation design standards for building projects. The standards were developed by a committee of staff, landscape architects, and stakeholders. The updated standards will ensure that new developments are designed and built with water efficient landscapes.

Long-Term Water Supply Plan. In conjunction with the General Plan update, Water Resources staff is updating the Long Term Water Supply Plan. Technical studies are being conducted, the first of which is an analysis of how much it would cost and how long it would take to rehabilitate the desalination plant if it is needed to supplement local water supplies.

The Show Must Go On. The El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant was constructed in the late 1970s. Routine maintenance is a part of the standard operation of the plant, however the last two years have seen an increase in maintenance activity. Recent projects have included rehabilitating two digesters, repairing the primary and secondary clarifiers, installing new blowers for the aeration basins, adding a second belt press for solids handling. Improvements also included the installation of an emergency generator and the replacement of the influent pump station.

The recycled water system also added a new pumping station located in La Mesa Park. All of the work has taken place while continuing to process 7.5 million gallons of recycled water per day.

Waterfront Department

Weather Kiosk in the Harbormaster's Office. Local marine weather information, including offshore buoy reports, is now available at your fingertips, thanks to the generous gift of a “touch screen” information kiosk from the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. Located at the Harbormaster's Office, the kiosk is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. With a simple user interface, the kiosk provides real-time weather information from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Service, plus a showcase of treasures that the Sanctuary has to offer. Click a button to learn about various Sanctuary activities including educational and outreach programs, research projects and resource protection programs, plus extensive information about species and habitats.